Bristol July 2d 1852
Friday

My dear Mrs Chapman

If I do not at once thank you for your note of June 27th I know not when I may have time to do it. –

We were very glad to hear from you. Mary has taken your note to Miss Tribe whose marriage is delayed for a few weeks from a difficulty about getting a house. M. & I. have decided on going to Dublin while Miss Pugh & Miss Wigham are there, & mean to leave home for Chester & Holyhead on Monday next. Our crossing will depend upon weather: if it be boisterous, I must not venture, for seasickness is so violent with me, as to prove rather hazardously to affect my health: a cousin of mine died in her berth from it while in the Bristol Channel. Visiting Ireland has never been an object of my desire, (the sea has been a great obstacle) tho' I have many friends & acquaintance there: anti-slavery sympathies seem to have an attraction ~~which~~ stronger than romantic scenery & ordinary social relations.

I want much to commune with Mr. Webb about the "Advocate". The starting it, in Mr. W.'s estimation 64 (& indeed in my own) with so little machinery for carrying it out, is rather injudicious – It is no the moderate pecuniary outlay at first, (that I am willing to risk, believing it wd be repaid if the paper could be set & kept going,) but it is help that can be depended on, that we want. G. T. of course is not a being coming under that category, & our Editor Mr Farmer is a most uncertain person, well-meaning, well acquainted with the A. S. cause, but depressed in circumstances & irregular & in his chance employments. My hope was, that having set the paper going valuable helpers would appear after-

Difficulties already are rife- You will smile at my main stay,- my sheet anchor- W. Brown! But he is regular & business-like, tho' of course only moderately acquainted with our ways & tastes. We shall now probably modify our plan by having a smaller sheet under ½ an ounce, so as to send it with a penny stamp instead of having the paper stamped before printing, when a fresh sheet as large as the Times goes free.

However, we are not to be discouraged; we may be laughed at, but I am determined to try something. The Election is at present our great stumbling block. Mr. Thompson and Farmer cannot attend to the "Advocate": W. B. is my only friend! I have removed all pecuniary difficulties in the way of our start. I am sure you will join us in thinking for the best! I have written a short Introduction- the same mean to make no flourish in advance, & not to advertise, we are less hampered in our proceedings for the first No.

I went to one of Geo. Thompson's in T. Hamlets meetings. — It made me rather sad to see his strength & eloquence employed in addressing *political* partisans, the object of so much labour being not worth it. Mr Grant has been uncommonly severe in the *M. C.* upon Mr Thompson, whose election, (in order to favour other candidates) he has violently opposed. He has ever rung & rung the changes upon the points where G.T. is most vulnerable; — his absence in America, — his lecturing there for money; — his poverty, — his want of education & of "position in Society" &c &c. *Really*, Mr G. esteems G.T. but he only agrees with Mr T's best friends in regarding the H. of Com. as not G.T.'s proper place. — I cannot but believe he will succeed at the T.H. as he is so anxious about it; — but *if* he should be beaten, I shall not grieve. Not only his real respectability is diminished by his being in Parliat; but he is *wasted* there. He carries no weight, — he does not there get a fair hearing, never a fair *reporting*. There is in this country a great, & I think not an *unreasoning* dislike to seeing people out of the *position* they ought to occupy: this position is often oddly, badly determined; — still *it* is fixed

& recognized. No doubt Mr. T. is in all essentials more qualified for the H. of C. than half who are there; — yet his want of pecuniary independence places him among those who will not carry weight there, unless they sacrifice their principles, which G. T. will not do. It is remarkable how G. T. has gone down in public opinion during the last 2 years. I seldom meet with any but true friends to the A. S. cause, who have a good word for him.

Considering what Mr. T.'s circumstances in life are, ~~be~~ known ~~as they are~~ to be, ~~indifferent~~, there can be no doubt that he would be more respected, — that he wd. occupy a higher & more influential position in public estimation, were he working hard at some profession or trade, supporting his family prudently, & laying by something for old age, than as a Member of the H. of C. What might he not do if the time & effort he could afford to give to philanthropic objects were devoted to the A. S. cause! I would not write to you thus about G. T. did I not know your great regard for him: it is only to those who so appreciate him that I would thus ~~[illegible]~~ write; but I think you should know exactly how he is viewed here by friends & foes. I have no fear of your using any thing I have said to Mr. T.'s injury.

I have never lost sight of Father Mathew since your letter to me about him. His conduct is now getting exposed: Mary's history of the Mathew T. Soc. gives him his deserts. His letters have done much mischief, & it will be long before it can be removed; & so with regard to D. Campbell's abominable articles: a few see their malignity & falsehood; but where 1 person does, 9 ~~are~~ believe every word he says — Mr. L. Tapp

Ms. A. 7. 3. 50

2/ is as yet a great authority here, & in much repute with the leading orthodox dissenting ministers. The quarrel of Dr C. with L. T. is useful, but Dr C. is less in favour with his clerical than with his lay brethren.

You will not be called upon, I imagine, to contribute to Mr Webb's pamphlet: provision has been made for the expenses: I do not expect to hear of 25 copies being sold. –

I am sorry you did not execute your intention of writing a line to Mr Grant, & wd advise you, even now, to do so – Mr G. is peculiarly sensitive to attention, (as much so as you knew him to be to what he considers incivilities) – I could not minister to his feelings on these points beyond what I felt to be due to him: but the A.S. cause in England is so indebted to him that acknowledgement of his services can hardly be too strongly expressed. In the late "leading Liberal Union" affair, the Adv. has done wonderful work. – "Uncle Tom" is undergoing great circulation the English edition is now but cheap –

I am trying to indoctrinate Mr. Rowland Hill, our great P.O. reformer, who is visiting his brother Mr. M. D. Hill (Bankruptcy Commissr.) at Clifton in A.S. matters. Mary is helping to do the same with Mr Commr. Hill. All his feelings are right, but very warm: he lies awake at night if he reads about Amn. Slavery, & says he could not trust himself to

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to make a speech in public in this town. We therefore gave him Mr W. Phillips's speeches to read. He wants to send them to his friend Lord Brougham for he says England has no orator equal to Mr P. Neither he nor his brother Rowland can believe that Georgia has offered a reward for Mr Garrison's apprehension. — I shall lend Mr R. Hill "Uncle Tom"

I have proposed to our London "publishing Committee" that, Mr & Mrs Webb, Miss Poole, Miss Wigham Mary & I shall get up and print in Dublin the first No. of the Advocate, & send the edition to London for publication by the 1st of May. I expect they will cavil at this for I look upon this said publishing to consist of W. W. Brown only!!

We should have liked to have had some personal accounts of your circle. I hope Emma got back well to Paris. It was a great treat to me to meet her in London: thank her for her last parting note to me, delivered by a private hand: it was very affecting.

I think our friend John Scoble is pretty well disgraced: he sneaks away from meeting Brown, as he did from E. Mathews. There is in the A. S. Stand.d an allusion to Scoble extracted from a letter of mine to Mr May & I have sent Mr Garrison another morceau about Scoble for the Lib.r — his opposing G. T. is supporting a pro-slavery man. With kind love to you all, Ever yours J. B. Estlin

Ms.A.1.3.50